



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

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2001 Forestry Incentives Program



Customer Focus—

History books tell us of "majestic pines and oaks" that early settlers discovered in the area of Speedwell, New Jersey. Today, most of the pines are deformed and scraggly. This is the result of generation upon generation of humans taking out the best trees in the forest. What now remains are mostly poorly formed pitch pines.

To counteract this downward spiral of forest quality, the Lee Brothers, part of a cranberry growing family, decided to remove the scraggly pitch pines and plant better quality short leaf and pitch pines on 160 acres of their land. The Lees requested and received cost sharing through FIP.

They sold the poorer quality trees for pulp, leaving an "open shelterwood," islands of trees that provide wildlife habitat and improved pest management throughout this 160-acre area. The site was prescribed burned and drum chopped to remove organic matter or "turf" from the forest floor. Into this area, 6- to 12-inch tall pine seedlings were planted in the spring of 2001.

Newly planted areas have less tip moth damage in this area, most likely because these islands of trees attract beneficial insects and birds, keeping the population of tip moths to manageable levels.

All in all the Lees Brothers are happy with the planting, except for one thing. As Abbott Lee says, "We should have done this 15 years ago."

New Jersey Summary

Overview

New Jersey's forest landowners continue to utilize FIP monies to improve their woodlots. The number of FIP projects completed in FY 2001 doubled from last year.

Accomplishments

Seven projects were completed in FY 2001. The projects funded include 160 acres of tree planting and 42 acres of Timber Stand Improvement activities.

Outlook

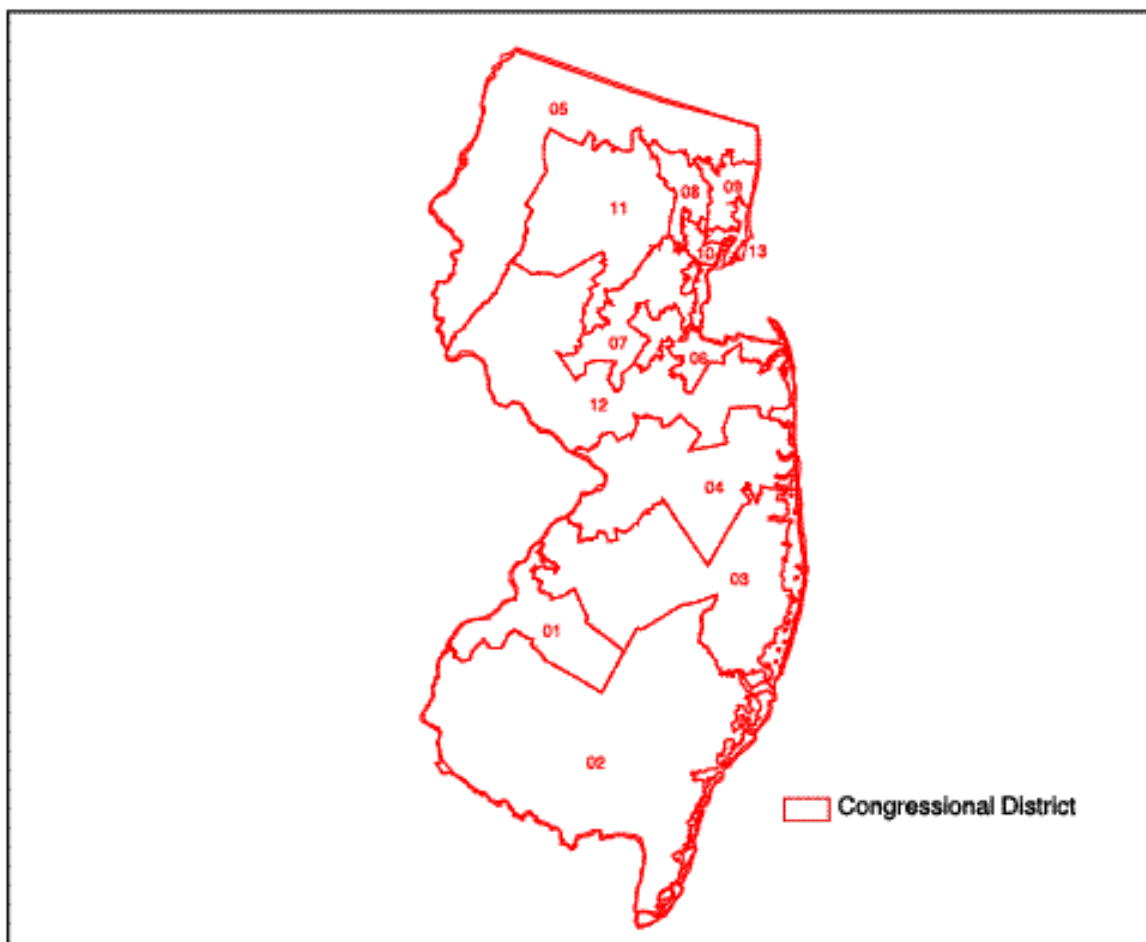
Forestlands taxation - Over 300,000 acres of private forestlands are under forest management, which reduces local taxes for the landowner. This program is a part of the NJ Farmland Assessment Act. These lands have up-to-date forest management plans and are inspected annually by professional foresters to determine whether they continue to be actively managed for forest products. Now that these lands have written plans, the FIP program can help the landowners install the forestry practices called for in their woodland management plans or Forest Stewardship Plan.

State Contact

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New Jersey Congressional Districts



New Jersey FIP Dollars and Contracts

| Congressional Districts | Fiscal Year 2001 | | Cumulative Total (97-01) | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| | Obligated Dollars | Number of Contracts | Obligated Dollars | Number of Contracts |
| District 2 | 3,250 | 2 | 12,127 | 6 |
| District 3 | 0 | 0 | 650 | 1 |
| District 4 | 0 | 0 | 1,365 | 3 |
| District 5 | 2,674 | 4 | 6,200 | 9 |
| District 12 | 741 | 1 | 1,391 | 2 |
| State Totals | \$6,665 | 7 | \$21,733 | 21 |

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